

### **Non-Destructive Testing** (Mark 14:66-72)

**Proposition:** Every one of us can look at the non-destructive testing of Peter before us to night and learn three actions that will cause us to avoid the failure that he experienced.

#### **I. Read the Suggestions for Failure**

- A. The Suggestion of Haughty Speech (Vs. 29, 31)
- B. The Suggestion of Heavy Sleep (Vs. 37)
- C. The Suggestion of a Hasty Sword (Vs. 47)
- D. The Suggestion of Hightailing Steps (Vs. 50)

#### **II. Recall the Scene of Failure** (Vs. 54, 66-71)

- A. A Scene of Distance (Vs. 54a)
- B. A Scene of Displacement (Vs. 54b)
- C. A Scene of Dismissal (Vs. 66-70a)
- D. A Scene of Departure (Vs. 70b-71)

#### **III. Realize the Spotlight in Failure** (Vs. 72)

- A. The Revelation of Failure (Vs. 72b)
- B. The Reflection on Failure (Vs. 72c)
- C. The Remorse by Failure (Vs. 72d)

#### **IV. Rely on the Salvaging from Failure**

- A. Salvaged by a Call (Ch 16:7)
- B. Salvaged for a Calling (Acts 2:14)

## Non Destructive Testing (Mark 14:66-72)

When I was in college I took a class in metallurgy. It was a study of materials steel, aluminum, copper. In that class we heard of two types of testing to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the metals.

1) was destructive testing - we would take bar of metal and pull it apart or bend it to see its strengths. (Chainsaw test) 2) Non Destructive testing

we would dig the metal scrape the metal to study its properties. When it comes to God's children, He specializes in Nondestructive testing. The failure of Peter before us tonight was by no means final but it does show us that we may bend in our testings but

## I. Read the Suggestions for Failure - Failures

don't just happen out of the blue. Failures have their origin in a lot of small details that come together and become a failure. A small crack, an impurity, a weakness. Some is true w/ Peter

### A. The Suggestion of Haughty Speech (29,31)

Let's recollect the haughty words of Peter. Though everyone else leave you I will not. I'm not like every one else. I'm stronger.

I'm tougher, I'm able. <sup>Kun</sup> Hezekiah thought the rule didn't apply to him any more. God struck. "Hallelujah"

### B. The Suggestion of Heavy Sleep (37) - Here

was a neglect of prayer and devotion. In our main text he is walking into the temptation



ill prepared, w/o prayer and watching. I was speaking recently w/ a wise preacher of my fear of being a cast away. Watch your devotional life when C. The Suggestion of a Hasty Sword (47) Here we find Peter impetuous, jumping the gun. Lashing out unadvised by command of Jesus. Do you lash out suddenly? If your tongue was a sword would your family be fearless. Are you <sup>3</sup> getting a head of God instead of D. The Suggestion of Hightailing Steps (50) You love Jesus enough to heat someone over the head for him but will you submit along side him in face of <sup>an</sup> abusive world. Or has self preservation become your main concern. <sup>4</sup> It seems to have been.

## II. Recall the Scene of Failure - (54, 66-71)

Non Destructive testing to discover failure may not destroy a part or a person, but the dings and scrapes are no less painful. No one enjoys failure, but every one learns from it.

A. A Scene of Distance (54a) - Some say Peter was courageous going as far as he did, but the very words of the text are incriminating. "follow him afar off" just close enough to Jesus to not utterly cast him aside but far enough away so as not to be incriminated as a

B. A Scene of Displacement (54b) the distance turned to a displacement. He finds himself warming his hands along side the

1) ...testings, but God will not allow us to break. We may strain but we'll not sever, we may be cut but not crushed. Every one of us can look at the non-destructive testing of Peter before us to night and learn three actions that will cause us to avoid the failure that he experienced.

2) ...when you slip there you become vulnerable. How is your morning watch?

3) ...instead of waiting upon the Lord to renew your strength.

4) ...been with Peter. These are all indicators, suggestions that failure is just around the corner. Have they been the same for you?

5) ...incriminated as one of his disciples. Sounds like a lot of us in the church today. Song we used to sing in youth choir, "I will dare to live the difference, dare to live the difference Jesus made in my life..." Will you dare to do so? If not you will end up camping too close to the edge of failure.

1) Matthew Henry - They that think it dangerous to be in company with Christ's disciples, because thence they may be drawn in to suffer for him, will find it much more dangerous to be in company with his enemies, because there they may be drawn in to sin against him.

2) ...took over. This little maid uncovered the moral weakness in our test subject. The tale tale signs of failure.

3) ...through Peter's heart!

4) ...revealing my sin. That's why the Psalmist wrote in Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.



servants of the accuser. Displaced! A place he had no business being a place where able to sin! Matthew Henry "They that think C. A Scene of Dismissal (66-70a) - Peter ready to take the head off another servant, Bears the focus of atten of a little maid girl - "looked upon him" "She gazed intently at him". Discovered. He dismisses the whole thing. No net me. Before he even realized it self preservation of the flesh took over.

D. A Scene of Departure (70b-71) - What happened next was an absolute complete departure from the life he had lead for 3.5 yrs. "curse + swear". He didn't use foul language but said in affect: "I know this man may God curse me into eternity. He swears an oath that he didn't know Jesus." (72)

III. Realize the Spotlight in Failure (72)  
The cock crow was probably not a real rooster crow, a bugle call called the gallicantus - Latin for "cock crow" was sounded at 3 on guard change. Whatever it was it sent shock waves through (3)

A. The Revelation in Failure - (72b)  
At the sounding of the cock crow the words, the revelation of Jesus if you will, were brought to mind. It was the word of God that was a spotlight to reveal the sinful failure of Peter. First hand I have known in the failures of a child of God, the sting of His words revealing my B. The Reflection on Failure - 72C



He thought on the boast he had made  
and the warning of Christ. Although  
Christ has not specifically prognosticated  
our failure, his word is true enough to  
warn us of the danger of walking afar off.

**C. The Remorse by Failure** - Our  
phrase here indicates that he began to weep.  
Matthew account reads that he burst into  
tears! The real mark of a disciple of Christ  
a remorse over sin! Not an oh well, somewhat  
but a brokenness over our failure! 2 Sam 24:10

**IV. Rely on the Salvaging from Failure**  
Now remember this is man - destructive testing.  
Satan may have desired to sift Peter, But  
Jesus said that I have prayed for thee that thy

**A. Salvaged by a Call (16:7)** - We  
got to sneak ahead. Just one peek.  
After the death burial and resurrection  
Angels says let disciples know + Peter. Peter  
hasn't been cast aside! Peter you're still in the

**B. Salvaged to a Calling (Acts 2:14)**  
Just fairly days ago he was  
swearing up and down that he never  
knew Jesus and now he's proclaiming in  
the ears of 3000 with his disciples That he is - 400

**V. Close** - for the Child of God the  
trials and testings that we pass and fail are  
tests not set out to destroy us but to show  
us what we are made of. Learn from the test results  
of Scripture.

- 1) 2 Samuel 24:10 And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.
- 2) ...that thy faith fail not! Yes there has been failure. But I'd like to testify that failure is never final! I'd like to shift gears here and give the Devil a headache by letting you know that if you have failed, if you have been on the giving end of a blatant bold faced denial, brother and sister, I want you to know that there is a salvaging from Failure by Jesus Christ!
- 3) Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: